

ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH LEGISLATURE

FIRST SESSION

**LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 19**

Introduced by Hilkemann, 4; Aguilar, 35; Albrecht, 17; Arch, 14; Blood, 3; Bostar, 29; Bostelman, 23; Brandt, 32; Brewer, 43; Briese, 41; Cavanaugh, J., 9; Cavanaugh, M., 6; Clements, 2; Day, 49; DeBoer, 10; Dorn, 30; Erdman, 47; Flood, 19; Friesen, 34; Geist, 25; Gragert, 40; Hansen, B., 16; Hansen, M., 26; Hilgers, 21; Hughes, 44; Hunt, 8; Kolterman, 24; Lathrop, 12; Lindstrom, 18; Linehan, 39; Lowe, 37; McCollister, 20; McDonnell, 5; Morfeld, 46; Moser, 22; Murman, 38; Pahls, 31; Pansing Brooks, 28; Sanders, 45; Slama, 1; Stinner, 48; Vargas, 7; Walz, 15; Wayne, 13; Williams, 36; Wishart, 27.

WHEREAS, Howard Hawks represented regent district number 2 on the Board of Regents of the University of Nebraska beginning with his election in 2002 until the end of his most recent term in 2021; and

WHEREAS, Regent Howard Hawks is a native of Bruning, Nebraska, and an alumnus from both the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and the University of Nebraska at Omaha; and

WHEREAS, Regent Howard Hawks has not only served the residents of regent district number 2, but the entire State of Nebraska as an elected official, business and civic leader, and philanthropist; and

WHEREAS, Regent Howard Hawks served as the Chairperson and Vice Chairperson of the Board of Regents of the University of Nebraska each for two terms and has also led numerous committees of the Board of Regents, including the 2014 Presidential Search Screening and Selection Committee; and

WHEREAS, drawing on his exceptional experience in the fields of finance, business operations, and strategic planning, Regent Howard Hawks has made the University of Nebraska a more efficient and effective organization by prioritizing public-private partnerships, investing in deferred maintenance, and advocating for more state investment in higher education and research; and

WHEREAS, Regent Howard Hawks has been an instrumental business leader in Nebraska by founding and leading Tenaska, a Nebraska-based independent energy company known for its expertise in power plant development, natural gas and electric power marketing, natural gas exploration and production, and private

equity fund management; and

WHEREAS, Regent Howard Hawks has been recognized for his business achievements and success through induction into the Omaha Business Hall of Fame in 2002 and receiving both the University of Nebraska-Lincoln College of Business Lifetime Achievement Award and the University of Nebraska at Omaha College of Business Administration Distinguished Alumni Award; and

WHEREAS, Regent Howard Hawks has served admirably in leadership positions for countless community organizations including the Aksarben Future Trust, Heritage Services, Creighton University, Joslyn Art Museum, Mid-American Council Boy Scouts of America, Omaha Zoological Society, Omaha Henry Doorly Zoo Foundation, Greater Omaha Chamber of Commerce, Knights of Aksarben, Methodist Hospital, Omaha Symphony Association, Boys and Girls Club of Omaha, and the University of Nebraska Foundation; and

WHEREAS, Regent Howard Hawks and his wife Rhonda have supported countless civic, education, and community charitable efforts and initiatives through the Hawks Foundation, with a special focus on serving those Nebraskans in need of behavioral health support through helping establish the Lasting Hope Recovery Center in Omaha and in reforming the community behavioral health system of Nebraska; and

WHEREAS, Regent Howard Hawks earned the respect of those who served with him on the Board of Regents of the University of Nebraska, Presidents and Chancellors of the University of Nebraska, members of the United States Congress, Governors of Nebraska, members of the Nebraska Unicameral Legislature, and business and civic leaders; and

WHEREAS, Regent Howard Hawks decided to retire from his service as a University of Nebraska Regent and not seek a fourth term of office in 2020; and

WHEREAS, Regent Howard Hawks leaves a legacy as a champion for the University of Nebraska and its campuses through well-crafted public policy, strong relationships with government stakeholders, strategic public investment, and generous philanthropic support that will forever be remembered by the entire University of Nebraska community and State of Nebraska.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Legislature extends its deepest thanks and appreciation to Howard Hawks for his nearly two decades of dedicated service on the Board of Regents of the University of Nebraska and wishes him and his wife the very best in their next chapter of service.

2. That copies of this resolution be sent to Regent Howard Hawks and the Corporation Secretary for the Board of Regents of the University of Nebraska.